

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 6, 9 through 14, and 17 are pending, with Claims 1, 9, and 17 being independent. Claims 2, 7, 8, 10, 15, and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 9, and 17 have been amended.

Claims 1 through 7, 9 through 15, and 17 were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 over U.S. Patent Nos. 5,345,264 (Murata, et al.) and 5,140,424 (Yoshimura, et al.). Claims 8 and 16 were objected to and indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. All rejections and objections are respectfully traversed, and are submitted to have been obviated by: (a) the amendment of Claim 1 to include the features of Claims 7 and 8; and (b) the amendment of Claim 9 to include the features of Claims 15 and 16, with a number of amendments having been made to Claims 1 and 9 that are respectfully submitted by Applicant not to affect the allowability of those claims. For example, in all claims the expression “by an internal apparatus factor” has been deleted; in Claim 1, “zoom control device” has been changed to --zoom controller--, “electronically processing” has been changed to --processing--, and “said determination device determines that said optical zoom device” has been changed to --it is determined that said optical zoom device--; and in Claim 9, “in said determining step” has been deleted.

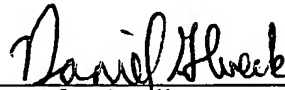
Claim 17 has been amended in the same manner as Claim 9 and therefore is believed by Applicant to be allowable.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel S. Glueck", is written over a horizontal line.

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